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9
10 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
11 CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
12

13
14 CITY PRINTS LLC, a New York Limited
Liability Company;

15 Plaintiff,

16 vs.

17 SHOSHO FASHION, INC., a California
18 Corporation; ROSS STORES, INC., a
19 Delaware corporation; and DOES 1-10,
inclusive,

20 Defendants.
21

Case Number: 2:15-cv-05296

**PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT FOR:
1. COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT
AND/OR
2. VICARIOUS AND/OR CONTRIBUTORY
COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT**

Jury Trial Demanded

22 Plaintiff CITY PRINTS LLC ("Plaintiff" or "City Prints") by and through its undersigned
23 attorneys, hereby prays to this honorable Court for relief and remedy based on the following:
24

25 **INTRODUCTION**

26 Plaintiff is a California-based company engaged in the apparel industry as a textile converter of
27 imported and domestic fabrications. Plaintiff creates, or purchases and obtains, exclusive rights
28 to unique two-dimensional graphic artworks for use on textiles and garments, and those textiles

1 and garments are transacted primarily in the fashion industry. Plaintiff owns these designs in
 2 exclusivity and makes sales of products bearing these designs for profit. Plaintiff's business is
 3 predicated on its ownership of these designs and it spends a considerable amount of time and
 4 resources creating and obtaining top-quality, marketable and aesthetically-appealing designs.
 5 Customers of Plaintiff, including possibly DOE defendants named herein, take design samples
 6 with the understanding and agreement that they will only utilize Plaintiff to reproduce said
 7 designs should they wish to do so, and will not seek to make minor changes to Plaintiff's
 8 proprietary work to reproduce the same elsewhere, yet use those designs in furtherance of their
 9 business in violation of both their contractual agreement with Plaintiff and Plaintiff's copyrights.
 10 No other party is authorized to make sales of product bearing Plaintiff's proprietary designs
 11 without express permission from Plaintiff. This action is brought to recover damages for direct,
 12 vicarious and contributory copyright infringement arising out of the misappropriation of
 13 Plaintiff's exclusive designs by the Defendants, and each of them.

14 15 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

- 16 1. This action arises under the Copyright Act of 1976, Title 17 U.S.C. § 101 *et seq.*
- 17 2. This Court has federal question jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1338(a) and (b).
- 18 3. Venue in this judicial district is proper under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391(c) and 1400(a) in that this is
 19 the judicial district in which a substantial part of the acts and omissions giving rise to the
 20 claims occurred.

21 22 **PARTIES**

- 23 4. CITY PRINTS LLC ("Plaintiff") is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of
 24 the State of New York with its principal place of business in the County of New York, at
 25 1400 Broadway, Suite 1704, New York, NY 10018.
- 26 5. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Defendant SHOSHO FASHION,
 27 INC. ("SHOSHO FASHION"), is, and at all times herein mentioned was, a corporation
 28 organized and existing under the laws of California and doing business in California, with its

principal place of business at 2454 E 27th Street, Vernon, CA 90058.

6. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Defendant ROSS STORES, INC. (“ROSS”), is, and at all times herein mentioned was, a corporation organized and existing under the laws of Delaware and doing business in California, with its principal place of business at 5130 Hacienda Drive, Dublin, CA 94568.

7. Named Defendants, and Does 1-10, may be collectively referred to as “Defendants.”

8. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that some of Defendants Does 1 through 3, inclusive, are manufacturers and/or vendors of garments to Defendant, which DOE Defendants have manufactured and/or supplied and are manufacturing and/or supplying garments comprised of fabric printed with Plaintiff’s copyrighted design(s) (as hereinafter defined) without Plaintiff’s knowledge or consent or have contributed to said infringement. The true names, whether corporate, individual or otherwise, and capacities of defendants sued herein as Does 1 through 3 are presently unknown to Plaintiff at this time, and therefore, Plaintiff sues said defendants by such fictitious names. Plaintiff will seek leave to amend this complaint to allege their true names and capacities when the same have been ascertained. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and based thereon alleges, that each of defendants designated as a DOE is responsible in some manner for the events alleged herein and the damages caused thereby.

9. Defendants DOES 4 through 10, inclusive, are other parties not yet identified who have infringed Plaintiff’s copyrights, have contributed to the infringement of Plaintiff’s copyrights, or have engaged in one or more of the wrongful practices alleged herein. The true names, whether corporate, individual or otherwise, and capacities of defendants sued herein as Does 4 through 10 are presently unknown to Plaintiff at this time, and therefore, Plaintiff sues said defendants by such fictitious names. Plaintiff will seek leave to amend this complaint to allege their true names and capacities when the same have been ascertained.

10. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereupon alleges that at all times relevant hereto each of Defendants acted in concert with each other, was the agent, affiliate, officer, director, manager, principal, alter-ego, and/or employee of the remaining defendants and was at all

1 times acting within the scope of such agency, affiliation, alter-ego relationship and/or
 2 employment; and actively participated in or subsequently rarified and adopted, or both, each
 3 and all of the acts or conducts alleged, with full knowledge of all the facts and circumstances,
 4 including without limitation to full knowledge of each and every wrongful conducts and
 5 Plaintiff's damages caused therefrom.

6 7 **CLAIMS RELATED TO DESIGN**

8 11. Plaintiff is the owner and author of a two-dimensional artwork under title "P11201"
 9 ("Subject Design"). (Exhibit A).

10 12. Plaintiff applied for a copyright from the United States Copyright Office for the Subject
 11 Design and was granted Registration No. VA 1-879-256 on August 15, 2013 (Exhibit B).

12 13. Plaintiff formatted the Subject Design for use on textiles, sampled the Subject Design, and
 13 negotiated sales of fabric bearing the Subject Design.

14 14. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Defendants, each of them, had
 15 access to the Subject Designs, including without limitation, through: (a) access to Plaintiff's
 16 showroom and/or design library; (b) access to illegally distributed copies of the Subject
 17 Designs by third-party vendors and/or DOE Defendants, including without limitation
 18 international and/or overseas converters and printing mills; (c) access to Plaintiff's strike-offs
 19 and samples; and (d) access to garments in the marketplace manufactured with lawfully
 20 printed fabric bearing the Subject Designs.

21 15. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that, without Plaintiff's authorization,
 22 Defendant ROSS purchased, sold, manufactured, caused to be manufactured, imported and/or
 23 distributed fabric and/or garments comprised of fabric featuring a design which is identical,
 24 or substantially similar to, the Subject Design. A true and correct copy of such a garment is
 25 attached hereto as Exhibit C. Said garments include but are not limited to garments sold by
 26 ROSS bearing the label "Qree" under RN 146343 which indicates that the garments were
 27 manufactured by or for SHOSHO FASHION.

1 16. At various times Defendant ROSS owned and controlled offline and/or online retail stores,
2 and each, Plaintiff's investigation revealed that garments comprised of fabric bearing the
3 Subject Design were being offered for sale, garments which were manufactured and/or
4 imported under the direction of the Defendants, and each of them.

5 17. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that, without Plaintiff's authorization,
6 Defendant SHOSHO FASHION purchased, sold, manufactured, caused to be manufactured,
7 imported and/or distributed fabric and/or garments comprised of fabric featuring a design
8 which is identical, or substantially similar to, the Subject Design.

9 18. None of the aforementioned transactions were authorized by Plaintiff, and all were in
10 violation of Plaintiff's intellectual property rights.

11
12 **FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

13 (For Copyright Infringement – Against all Defendants, and Each)

14 19. Plaintiff repeats, re-alleges and incorporates herein by reference as though fully set forth the
15 allegations contained in Paragraphs 1 through 18, inclusive, of this Complaint.

16 20. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Defendants, and each of them,
17 accessed the Subject Designs through, without limitation, the following: (a) access to
18 Plaintiff's design library; (b) access to authorized or unauthorized reproductions in the
19 possession of other vendors and/or DOE Defendants; and (c) access to Plaintiff's strike-offs,
20 swatches, paper CADs and samples.

21 21. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Defendants, and each of them,
22 infringed Plaintiff's copyright by importing, creating, making and/or developing directly
23 infringing and/or derivative works from the Subject Design and by importing, producing,
24 distributing and/or selling infringing garments through a nationwide network of retail stores,
25 catalogues, and online websites.

26 22. Due to Defendants' acts of infringement, Plaintiff has suffered substantial damages to its
27 business in an amount to be established at trial.
28

23. Due to Defendants' acts of infringement, Plaintiff has suffered general and special damages to its business in an amount to be established at trial.

24. Due to Defendants' acts of copyright infringement as alleged herein, Defendants, and each of them, have obtained direct and indirect profits they would not otherwise have realized but for their infringement of the Subject Design. As such, Plaintiff is entitled to disgorgement of Defendants' profits directly and indirectly attributable to Defendants' infringement of the Subject Design in an amount to be established at trial.

25. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Defendants, and each of them, have committed acts of infringement alleged herein with actual or constructive knowledge of Plaintiff's rights such that Plaintiff is entitled to a finding of willful infringement.

SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(For Vicarious and/or Contributory Copyright Infringement – Against All Defendants)

26. Plaintiff repeats, re-alleges and incorporates herein by reference as though fully set forth the allegations contained in Paragraphs 1 through 25, inclusive, of this Complaint.

27. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Defendants, and each of them, knowingly induced, participated in, aided and abetted in and resultantly profited from the illegal reproduction, importation, purchase, distribution and/or sales of product featuring the Subject Design as alleged herein above.

28. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Defendants, and each of them, are vicariously liable for the infringement alleged herein because they had the right and ability to supervise the infringing conduct and because they had a direct financial interest in the infringing product.

29. By reason of the Defendants', and each of their, acts of contributory and/or vicarious infringement as alleged above, Plaintiff has suffered and will continue to suffer substantial damages to its business in an amount to be established at trial, as well as additional general and special damages in an amount to be established at trial.

30. Due to Defendants' acts of contributory and/or vicarious copyright infringement as alleged herein, Defendants, and each of them, have obtained direct and indirect profits they would have not otherwise realized but for their infringement of the Subject Design. As such, Plaintiff is entitled to disgorgement of Defendants' profits directly and indirectly attributable to Defendants' infringement of the Subject Design, in an amount to be established at trial.

31. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Defendants, and each of them, have committed acts of infringement alleged herein with actual or constructive knowledge of Plaintiff's rights such that Plaintiff is entitled to a finding of willful infringement.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment against all Defendants as follows:

Against All Defendants

With respect to Each Claim for Relief:

1. That Defendants, their agents and servants be enjoined from infringing Plaintiff's copyrights in any manner;
2. That Plaintiff be awarded all profits of Defendants plus all losses of Plaintiff, the exact sum to be proven at time of trial as available under 17 U.S.C. § 504(b), or, if elected before final judgment, statutory damages as available under the Copyright Act, 17 U.S.C. § 504(c);
3. That Plaintiff be awarded its attorneys' fees as available under the Copyright Act, 17 U.S.C. § 101 *et seq.*;
4. That Plaintiff be awarded pre-judgment interest as allowed by law;
5. That Plaintiff be awarded costs of litigation; and
6. That Plaintiff be awarded such further legal and equitable relief as the Court deems proper.

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DEMAND FOR TRIAL BY JURY

Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury in this action pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 38 and the Seventh Amendment of the Constitution.

Dated: July 14, 2015

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ C. Yong Jeong

C. Yong Jeong, Esq.
Paul Cohen, Esq.
Daniel Hoffman, Esq.
Attorneys for Plaintiff,
CITY PRINTS LLC